

Market News

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, Recycling Market Development Program

Scrap Tire Conference Announced

The second Texas Scrap Tire Market Development Conference will be held on June 18th in Austin. This one-day conference is designed to bring scrap tire end users and processors together to increase recycling.

There have been significant changes in the Waste Tire Recycling Fund program as a result of legislation passed by the 74th Texas Legislature. Jennifer Sidnell, Automotive Waste Management Section Manager, will recount these changes and highlight the increased emphasis on end use. TNRCC staff will update participants on the use of tire shreds in landfill construction and in on-site sewage facilities. Three breakout sessions will focus on specific markets: tire derived fuel, highway applications and molded and extruded products. During each breakout session, participants will learn about current issues and consider ways to overcome obstacles in market development.

Bryan W. Dixon, Director of the TNRCC Municipal Solid Waste Division will serve as moderator for the conference. According to Dixon, "This conference is just one of the ways TNRCC is realizing our mission of locating and developing markets for all of the scrap tires generated in Texas."

The conference will be held at the Joe C. Thompson Conference Center on the University of Texas campus. The Scrap Tire Management Council, Texas Tire Dealers and Retreaders Association, Texas Engineering Extension Service and the Texas General Land Office are co-sponsoring the event. For more information about the conference, contact Paige Buechley at 512/239-6704.



Spotlight on: Ball-Foster Glass Company

Ball-Foster Glass Company is celebrating 30 years in operation in Waxahachie this year. The plant manufactures amber glass containers, using an average of 30 percent recycled content. With almost 200 employees, Ball-Foster is one of the largest employers in Waxahachie. Although the plant manufactures amber containers, both clear and amber glass cullet are used in the recycling process.

According to plant manager, Jack Buckwalter, "Using cullet at our plant reduces our raw materials consumption, reduces the amount of energy required to melt the batch and somewhat reduces air emissions. When we can count on consistent volumes of acceptable quality cullet, it makes economic and environmental sense for us to use as much post-consumer material as we can source."

Ball-Foster only purchases "furnace-ready cullet" from processors such as Strategic Materials Inc., (formerly Allwaste Recycling) in nearby Midlothian. Buckwalter explained that, "the quality of cullet we use is as critical as the quality of raw materials we use in manufacturing new glass containers. Since we're not equipped at this plant to perform the specialized functions of removing contaminants and crushing cullet, we rely on professionals such as Strategic Materials to do what they do best - and this allows us to concentrate on our primary business - making new glass containers."

For more information about the Ball-Foster plant, contact Buckwalter at 214/937-3430. For information about selling glass to Strategic Materials, contact Cecil Lassetter at 214/299-5081.

Motorola Develops Recycled-Content Packaging

Motorola recently implemented an innovative packaging system at its MMTG Oak Hill facility in Austin that combines the latest in packaging design and use of recycled plastics with a recovery and reuse program. The packaging is a plastic end cap that is made from 80 percent recycled HDPE. The end-caps are used in pairs to package a "bundle" of six stacked trays of up to 200 microprocessors. The end caps protect more than \$30,000 in product in each bundle.

David Cordova, Packing Engineering Technician with Motorola, has guided the development of this new packaging system. "My objective was to take what we know about designing a package to protect our product and combine this with the advances in use of recycled plastics. In the end, we were actually able to improve the performance of the packaging for this product and provide a new market for use of recycled plastics." The new end-caps replace a larger molded polyethylene product. "In addition to using recycled plastics, we have reduced the storage requirements for this packaging by two-thirds. Since we use more than 3,000 sets of these end-caps each week, storage of packaging materials can become a big problem."

The new packaging was developed by RSVP in California after extensive research. According to RSVP President David Roberts, "We tried many different designs and materials and are satisfied that the recycled HDPE will be a good product for Motorola and its customers. After looking for many sources of HDPE, we were able to find a consistent quality of material from a supplier in Texas, so now milk jugs that are recycled in Texas are finding new homes as state of the art packaging in the computer industry."

Now that Motorola is using the recycled-content packaging, they are also implementing a recovery and reuse program for packaging from their customers. Re-Source America, which specializes in recovery and reuse of packaging in the computer and component industry, is assisting Motorola in developing a program to inspect and reuse these end-caps along with other component packaging. Jim Baker, Sales Engineer with Re-Source America applauded the efforts of Motorola and RSVP. "They have designed an excellent product and now I can turn my attention to developing the type of program that we have for many high-tech manufacturers to recover and reuse these valuable packaging components."

Re-Source America maintains reuse/recycle logs that indicate material type, weight, volume and piece part quantity. Since Re-Source America receives and inspects reclaimed packaging, they are able to provide technical feedback to the manufacturer's packaging department to improve packaging design.

For more information, contact David Cordova at Motorola at 512/891-2677; David Roberts at RSVP at 408/475-2510; or Jim Baker at Re-Source America at 512/345-1903.

ETC...

...While prices for aluminum, glass, plastic, and steel have changed little from last month, all recovered **paper grades** continue to soften. **OCC** prices are stronger in Texas than any other part of the country due to demand by mills in **Mexico**; however, prices are down for all paper grades. Industry sources still expect improvement later in the year, but it could be several months before demand for **old news-paper (ONP)** and office grades picks up...As the market for ONP reaches the lowest point in more than two years, Dallas-based **Southland Newsprint, L.P.**, has announced plans for construction of a new newsprint mill in **Longview** in east Texas which will provide a major new market for recovered paper. The \$750 million project is scheduled to be under construction by late summer with completion about two years later. Although the mill will use east Texas timber as its primary feedstock to produce 1,400 tons of newsprint per day, the mill will have capacity for 20% recycled-content and could consume up to 280 tons per day of ONP and old magazines (OMG)...**Bill Toby** and **Matthew Weaver** have recently accepted positions with **McKinley Fiber** in Albuquerque. Toby is the new Regional Manager and Weaver is the Regional Manager for Program Development. McKinley will be setting up office paper recycling programs and training staff as they expand office paper recycling in New Mexico and **West Texas**. Both can be reached at 505/873-0440...**Anchor Glass** will not be closing its **Houston** glass container manufacturing plant as announced earlier this year. According to Anchor officials, the plant will remain open for the foreseeable future. Currently, the plant is not running at full capacity; however, there are plans to increase production in the coming months...**Renewed Materials Industries, Inc.** in Muenster has changed its name to **Rumber® Materials Inc.** The company manufactures trailer flooring and other products from tire rubber and plastics. For more information about Rumber® or its products, call 817/759-4181 or 512/794-8473...**Larry Shroyer**, West Texas Manager for the **Southwest Public Recycling Association (SPRA)** reports that the market cooperative is preparing a 95-ton rail car shipment of brown glass from **Fort Stockton** and **Alpine** to be shipped to **Coors Glass** in Wheat Ridge, Colo-

Texas Market Prices

(for the week of April 15, 1996)

Material		Processor Price	End-User Price
Aluminum	UBC (cans)	\$0.29 - 0.45/lb —	\$0.59/lb ↓
Glass	Flint	0 - 30/ton —	50 - 57/ton —
	Amber	0 - 25/ton —	40 - 59/ton —
	Green	0 - 10/ton —	15/ton —
Paper	OCC (cardboard)	10 - 25/ton ↓	45 - 60/ton ↓
	ONP (newsprint)	2 - 10/ton ↓	20 - 35/ton ↓
	White Ledger	30 - 75/ton ↓	100/ton ↓
	Mixed Paper	0 - 4/ton —	10 - 20/ton ↓
	Mixed Office Ledger	10 - 30/ton ↓	40 - 80/ton ↓
	Computer Print-out	60 - 180/ton ↓	200/ton ↓
Plastic	PET (mixed colors)	0 —	0.09 - 0.13/lb ↓
	HDPE (natural)	0 —	0.105 - 0.11/lb ↑
	HDPE (mixed colors)	0 —	0.05 - 0.06/lb —
Steel	Steel Cans	0 - 37/ton ↑	92/ton —

The prices listed above are compiled by the TNRCC Recycling Market Development Program and are for reference only. These prices are not firm quotes. TNRCC obtained pricing information from buyers within each category and developed a pricing range. "Processors" include dealers, brokers, scrap yards and collection centers; whereas, "end-users" include mills and plants. Processor prices are for delivered material in metropolitan areas of the state and do not reflect the value of any collection services. End-user prices, except for glass, are for baled material in truckload quantity, f.o.b. seller's dock. The difference between processor and end-user prices is indicative of the value added by separating, baling or otherwise preparing materials to meet end-market specifications. Actual prices paid by end-users will depend on quality, quantity and transportation requirements. Arrows indicate direction of change from previous month.

rado. For more information about SPRA, contact Larry Shroyer at 915/563-1918...Recovery and Reclamation in **Pecos** has changed its name to **Battery Conservation Technologies, Inc. (BCTI)**. The company specializes in the recycling of alkaline, zinc-carbon, ni-cad, and other batteries. For more information about BCTI, contact **Cheryl Bobbitt** at 915/447-3272.

Market News is produced by the TNRCC Recycling Market Development Program.

For more information about items in this newsletter, contact the Market Development Team at 512/239-6750.

The TNRCC is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. The agency does not allow discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation or veteran status. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, this document may be requested in alternate formats by contacting the TNRCC at (512)239-0010, Fax 239-0055, or 1-800-RELAY-TX (TDD), or by writing P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087.

♻️ Printed on recycled paper.

Market News Subscription Information

The most valuable tool for market development is good information. It's also the most cost effective. The TNRCC's Recycling Market Development Program publishes Market News, a free monthly supplement to the quarterly Texas Recycler, dedicated to bringing you the latest and best information available on markets for recovered materials.

Each month, Market News features articles about specific materials, highlighting individual market success stories and keeping you abreast of market trends. The Recycling Market Development staff want this publication to be truly useful, so don't hesitate to call them at 512/239-6750 with your suggestions and items of interest.

If you would like to receive future copies of Market News, please complete this coupon and return to:

Recycling Section/MC 114, Attn: Heidi Wittenborn,

Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____